

REMARKS

The final Office Action dated August 13, 2008 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-11, 13, 14, and 16-18 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-11, 13, 14, and 16-18 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1-10, 13, 14, 16, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,523,022 to Hobbs (hereinafter referred to as "Hobbs") in view of U.S. Patent 6,560,639 to Dan, et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Dan"), and further in view of U.S. Patent 7,031,941 to Garrow, et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Garrow") is respectfully traversed.

Initially, Applicants submit that the prior art does not describe or suggest Applicants' claimed invention. For example, none of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests first and second web sites each having substantially identical navigational structures. Specifically, Applicants traverse the Examiner's assertion on page 4 of the Office Action that "Hobbs teaches site plan and site index which are navigational structures of a website in Figures 12 and 13." Rather, Figure 12 shows a flowchart of a method for generating a single frame within a web browser, wherein the frame includes an indexed list of terms that the site operator has designated as linked terms that are used as query keys in order to return optimum results from a Data Warehouse's search engine. In other words, the query keys presented to a user in the indexed list of terms are used as a basis of a search within the Data Warehouse, which includes data obtained from multiple independent web sites that are not operated or maintained by the host of the Data Warehouse. *See*, for example, col. 11, lines 54-67. Moreover, Figure 13 shows a sample browser window that includes such an indexed list of terms. When a user clicks on any of the indexed terms, a list of search results is presented. Each of the search results is obtained from a search of the Data Warehouse based on using the indexed term as a search key. *See*, for example, col. 27, lines 6-11. Applicants submit that mere search results obtained from a Data Warehouse that is populated with data obtained from web sites outside of the control of the

operator of the Data Warehouse do not describe or suggest a web site navigational structure. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the site plan and site index described by Hobbs are not equivalents of a web site navigational structure as recited in Applicants' currently pending claims.

Hobbs describes an augmentative query architecture that enables the creation, addition, and subsequent integration of embedded expert judgment and authentication information into a query submitted to an information retrieval system. The system includes one or more document servers (202) that include a data warehouse (230) and an information template. The template can be a document specifically prepared for publication on, for example, the World Wide Web, and includes hypertext links containing HyperText Transport Protocol (HTTP) addresses of an application server (207). The application server (207) runs a computer application that uses gateway protocols, such as the Common Gateway Interface (CGI). The application includes look-up tables, one or more hash tables, one or more associative arrays or linked lists that include authentication data for accessing the system, and network addresses of each of the document servers (202). When a user clicks on any hyperlinks contained in a document on the document server (202), the CGI application on the application server (207) automatically returns a set of frames, inline frames, dynamic framesets, and/or pop-up windows to the user's browser. Each frame, inline frame, dynamic frameset, and/or pop-up window includes information relating to the clicked hyperlink, allowing the user to interactively access a range of pre-selected databases in the data warehouse (230). Notably, Hobbs does not describe or suggest a first web server that populates a first web site with data from a first database, wherein the data includes information that a first business entity wants to share with a second business entity, and a second web server that populates a second web site having a substantially identical navigational structure as the first web site with data from a second database, wherein the data includes information that the second business entity wants to share with the first business entity, and wherein the data shared by the second business entity is different than the data shared by the first business entity.

Dan describes a system for displaying web pages, identifying any user-changes in a web page, and storing the user-changes in a database. The system includes a web server (20), a file system (45), a database (50), and a front end (35) and back end (40) daemon. The web server (20) displays a web page to a user (10) while the front end daemon (35) identifies and stores the attributes of a user-changed web page. The back end daemon (40) parses the attributes and generates a web page to store in the file system (45) for later retrieval. Notably, Dan does not describe or suggest a first web server that populates a first web site with data from a first database, wherein the data includes information that a first business entity wants to share with a second business entity, and a second web server that populates a second web site having a substantially identical navigational structure as the first web site with data from a second database, wherein the data includes information that the second business entity wants to share with the first business entity, and wherein the data shared by the second business entity is different than the data shared by the first business entity.

Garrow describes a method for maintaining a database of configurations of mechanical equipment. A functional configuration database is established to store functional information about an end item and internal components of the end item. A logical configuration database that corresponds to the functional configuration database is also established. A physical configuration database is also established to store physical information about the end item. An operational configuration database is established to store operational configuration information about the end item. The database of configurations of mechanical equipment is maintained in accordance with the functional configuration database, the logical configuration database, the physical configuration database, and the operational configuration database.

Claim 1 recites a method of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between business entities in a collaborative development using a communication system including a first server system controlled and operated by a first business entity and a second server system controlled and operated by a second business entity. The first server system includes a first web server that hosts a web site of the first business entity and a first database that includes data owned by the first business entity, and the second server system includes a

second web server that hosts a web site of the second business entity and a second database that includes data owned by the second business entity. The method includes “coupling the first web server to the first database controlled by the first business entity, wherein the first web server populates a first web site with data from the first database on navigational pages such that the first web site has a navigational structure, the data including aircraft and aircraft engine information that the first business entity wants to share with the second business entity . . . coupling the second web server to the second database controlled by the second business entity, wherein the second web server populates a second web site with data from the second database on navigational pages such that the second web site has a navigational structure that is coordinated by the communication system to be substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure, the data including aircraft and aircraft engine information that the second business entity wants to share with the first business entity, the data shared by the second business entity being different from the data shared by the first business entity . . . synchronizing the first web site and the second web site to function together as a collaborative web site wherein a portion of the navigational pages accessible in the collaborative web site is hosted from the first web site by the first business entity and a portion of the navigational pages accessible in the collaborative web site is hosted from the second web site by the second business entity wherein the collaborative web site is hosted jointly by the first and second business entity . . . accessing the first web site and the data stored in the first server system database by a user associated with the second business entity to select a link displayed the collaborative web site . . . accessing the second web site and the data stored in the second server system database by a user associated with the first business entity to select a link displayed on the collaborative web site . . . recording navigation change details, including a url of the page changed, and a controlling party of the page in a historical log.”

None of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a method of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between two business entities, as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, none of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a method that includes coupling a first web server to a first database controlled by the first business entity, wherein the first web

server populates a first web site with data from the first database, the data including information that a first business entity wants to share with a second business entity, and coupling a second web server to a second database controlled by the second business entity, wherein the second web server populates a second web site with data from the second database, and wherein the data shared by the second business entity is different from the data shared by the first business entity.

Rather, Hobbs describes a method for generating a single frame within a web browser, wherein the frame includes an indexed list of terms that the site operator has designated as linked terms that are used as query keys in order to return optimum results from a Data Warehouse's search engine, Dan describes a system for identifying attributes of a user-changed web page and storing the attributes of a user-changed web page in a database, wherein the system includes a web site and a clone of the web site that is stored in a remote location and not accessed during use by users, and Garrow merely describes a method for maintaining a database of configurations of mechanical equipment. However, none of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests sharing data between a first business entity and a second business entity, wherein the data shared by the two business entities is different.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan, and further in view of Garrow.

Claims 2-5 depend from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-5 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-5 likewise are patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan, and further in view of Garrow.

Claim 6 recites a system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between business entities in a collaborative development via a user computer that includes a browser. The system includes "a first server system controlled and operated by a first business entity comprising a first web server and a first database including data owned by said first business entity, said first web server coupled to said first database, said first web

server displays a first web site populated with data from said first database at the user computer on navigational pages such that the first web site has a navigational structure . . . a second server system controlled and operated by a second business entity comprising a second web server and a second database including data owned by said second business entity, the data owned by said second business entity being different from the data owned by said first business entity, said second web server coupled to said second database, said second web server displays at the user computer a second web site populated with data from said second database on navigational pages such that the second web site has a navigational structure that is coordinated by the system to be substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure . . . wherein said system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information is configured to: synchronize said first web site and said second web site such that said first web site and said second web site function together as a collaborative web site, wherein a portion of the navigational pages accessible in said collaborative web site is hosted from said first web site by said first business entity and a portion of the navigational pages accessible in said collaborative web site is hosted from said second web site by said second business entity, and wherein the collaborative web site is hosted jointly by said first and second business entities, and the data stored in said first server system database is accessible to a user browser via said second server system, and the data stored in said second server system database is accessible to the user browser via said first server system, and the collaborative website is displayed to a user for accessing data stored in at least one of said first and second server systems . . . receive information from the user browser, wherein the information relates to navigational structure changes entered by the user, and wherein at least one of said first database and said second database maintains a record of navigational structure changes in a spreadsheet format.”

None of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between two business entities, as recited in Claim 6. More specifically, none of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a first server system controlled and operated by a first business entity and including a first web server and a first database that stores data owned by the first business entity, and a second server system controlled and

operated by a second business entity and including a second web server and a second database that stores data owned by the second business entity, wherein the data owned by the second business entity is different from the data owned by the first business entity.

Rather, Hobbs describes a method for generating a single frame within a web browser, wherein the frame includes an indexed list of terms that the site operator has designated as linked terms that are used as query keys in order to return optimum results from a Data Warehouse's search engine, Dan describes a system for identifying attributes of a user-changed web page and storing the attributes of a user-changed web page in a database, wherein the system includes a web site and a clone of the web site that is stored in a remote location and not accessed during use by users, and Garrow merely describes a method for maintaining a database of configurations of mechanical equipment. However, none of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests sharing data between a first business entity and a second business entity, wherein the data shared by the two business entities is different.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 6 is submitted to be patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan, and further in view of Garrow.

Claims 7-10 depend from independent Claim 6. When the recitations of Claims 7-10 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 6, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 7-10 likewise are patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan, and further in view of Garrow.

Claim 13 recites a web-based communications system including "a computer comprising a browser . . . a network coupled to said computer . . . a first server system controlled and operated by an aircraft engine manufacturer and comprising a first web server and a first database, said first web server coupled to said first database and to said network, said first web server configured to display at said computer a first web site having a navigational structure and populated with data from said first database on navigational pages . . . a second server system controlled and operated by a business partner and comprising a second web server and a second database, said second web server coupled to said second

database and to said network, said second web server configured to display at said computer a second web site populated with data from said second database on navigational pages and having a navigational structure that is coordinated by the system to be substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure, the data populating said second database being different from the data populating said first database . . . wherein said communications system is configured to: synchronize said first web site and said second web site such that said first web site and said second web site function together as a collaborative web site, wherein a portion of the navigational pages accessible in the collaborative web site is hosted from said first web site by the aircraft engine manufacturer and a portion of said navigational pages accessible in said collaborative web site is hosted from said second web site by the business partner of the aircraft engine manufacturer, and wherein said collaborative web site is hosted jointly by the aircraft engine manufacturer and the business partner, data stored in said first server system database accessible to said browser via said second server system, data stored in said second server system database is accessible to said browser via said first server system, the collaborative website is displayed to a user for accessing data stored in at least one of said first and second server system . . . transmit information from said browser to at least one of said first server system and said second server system, wherein the information relates to navigational structure changes entered by the user, and wherein at least one of said first database and second database maintains a record of navigation changes in a spreadsheet format.”

None of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a web-based communications system, as recited in Claim 13. More specifically, none of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a first server system controlled and operated by an aircraft engine manufacturer and including a first database and a first web server configured to display a first web site populated with data from the first database, and a second server system controlled and operated by a business partner of the aircraft engine manufacturer and including a second database and a second web server configured to display a second web site populated with data from the second database, wherein the data populating the second database is different from the data populating the first database.

Rather, Hobbs describes a method for generating a single frame within a web browser, wherein the frame includes an indexed list of terms that the site operator has designated as linked terms that are used as query keys in order to return optimum results from a Data Warehouse's search engine, Dan describes a system for identifying attributes of a user-changed web page and storing the attributes of a user-changed web page in a database, wherein the system includes a web site and a clone of the web site that is stored in a remote location and not accessed during use by users, and Garrow merely describes a method for maintaining a database of configurations of mechanical equipment. However, none of Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests sharing data between a first business entity and a second business entity, wherein the data shared by the two business entities is different.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan, and further in view of Garrow.

Claims 14, 16, and 18 depend from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claims 14, 16, and 18 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 14, 16, and 18 likewise are patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan, and further in view of Garrow.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 1-10, 13, 14, 16, and 18 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 11 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hobbs in view of Dan and Garrow, and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,278,965 to Glass, et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Glass") is respectfully traversed.

Hobbs, Dan, and Garrow are described above. Glass describes a real-time data management traffic adviser system (100) which uses data generated at different rates, by multiple incompatible data sources. The traffic adviser (100) includes an executive subsystem (102), an information subsystem (104), an input management subsystem (106), a prediction subsystem (108), and a client interface subsystem (110), that is interconnected to

interchange real-time aircraft operations data. The traffic adviser (100) generates its own value-added data products for the use of these groups, such as estimated at-gate aircraft arrival times and estimated aircraft departure times.

Claim 6 recites a system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between business entities in a collaborative development via a user computer that includes a browser. The system includes “a first server system controlled and operated by a first business entity comprising a first web server and a first database including data owned by said first business entity, said first web server coupled to said first database, said first web server displays a first web site populated with data from said first database at the user computer on navigational pages such that the first web site has a navigational structure . . . a second server system controlled and operated by a second business entity comprising a second web server and a second database including data owned by said second business entity, the data owned by said second business entity being different from the data owned by said first business entity, said second web server coupled to said second database, said second web server displays at the user computer a second web site populated with data from said second database on navigational pages such that the second web site has a navigational structure that is coordinated by the system to be substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure . . . wherein said system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information is configured to: synchronize said first web site and said second web site such that said first web site and said second web site function together as a collaborative web site, wherein a portion of the navigational pages accessible in said collaborative web site is hosted from said first web site by said first business entity and a portion of the navigational pages accessible in said collaborative web site is hosted from said second web site by said second business entity, and wherein the collaborative web site is hosted jointly by said first and second business entities, and the data stored in said first server system database is accessible to a user browser via said second server system, and the data stored in said second server system database is accessible to the user browser via said first server system, and the collaborative website is displayed to a user for accessing data stored in at least one of said first and second server systems . . . receive information from the user browser, wherein the information relates to navigational structure changes entered by the user, and wherein at least

one of said first database and said second database maintains a record of navigational structure changes in a spreadsheet format.”

None of Hobbs, Dan, Garrow, and Glass, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a system of communicating aircraft and aircraft engine information between two business entities, as recited in Claim 6. More specifically, none of Hobbs, Dan, Garrow, and Glass, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a first server system controlled and operated by a first business entity and including a first web server and a first database that stores data owned by the first business entity, and a second server system controlled and operated by a second business entity and including a second web server and a second database that stores data owned by the second business entity, wherein the data owned by the second business entity is different from the data owned by the first business entity.

Rather, Hobbs describes a method for generating a single frame within a web browser, wherein the frame includes an indexed list of terms that the site operator has designated as linked terms that are used as query keys in order to return optimum results from a Data Warehouse’s search engine, Dan describes a system for identifying attributes of a user-changed web page and storing the attributes of a user-changed web page in a database, wherein the system includes a web site and a clone of the web site that is stored in a remote location and not accessed during use by users, Garrow describes a method for maintaining a database of configurations of mechanical equipment, and Glass merely describes a real-time data management traffic adviser system which uses data generated at different rates, by multiple incompatible data sources. However, none of Hobbs, Dan, Garrow, and Glass, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests sharing data between a first business entity and a second business entity, wherein the data shared by the two business entities is different.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 6 is submitted to be patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan and Garrow, and further in view of Glass.

Claim 11 depends from independent Claim 6. When the recitations of Claim 11 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 6, Applicants submit that dependent

Claim 11 likewise is patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan and Garrow, and further in view of Glass.

Claim 13 recites a web-based communications system including “a computer comprising a browser . . . a network coupled to said computer . . . a first server system controlled and operated by an aircraft engine manufacturer and comprising a first web server and a first database, said first web server coupled to said first database and to said network, said first web server configured to display at said computer a first web site having a navigational structure and populated with data from said first database on navigational pages . . . a second server system controlled and operated by a business partner and comprising a second web server and a second database, said second web server coupled to said second database and to said network, said second web server configured to display at said computer a second web site populated with data from said second database on navigational pages and having a navigational structure that is coordinated by the system to be substantially identical to the first web site navigational structure, the data populating said second database being different from the data populating said first database . . . wherein said communications system is configured to: synchronize said first web site and said second web site such that said first web site and said second web site function together as a collaborative web site, wherein a portion of the navigational pages accessible in the collaborative web site is hosted from said first web site by the aircraft engine manufacturer and a portion of said navigational pages accessible in said collaborative web site is hosted from said second web site by the business partner of the aircraft engine manufacturer, and wherein said collaborative web site is hosted jointly by the aircraft engine manufacturer and the business partner, data stored in said first server system database accessible to said browser via said second server system, data stored in said second server system database is accessible to said browser via said first server system, the collaborative website is displayed to a user for accessing data stored in at least one of said first and second server system . . . transmit information from said browser to at least one of said first server system and said second server system, wherein the information relates to navigational structure changes entered by the user, and wherein at least one of said first database and second database maintains a record of navigation changes in a spreadsheet format.”

None of Hobbs, Dan, Garrow, and Glass, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a web-based communications system, as recited in Claim 13. More specifically, none of Hobbs, Dan, Garrow, and Glass, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests a first server system controlled and operated by an aircraft engine manufacturer and including a first database and a first web server configured to display a first web site populated with data from the first database, and a second server system controlled and operated by a business partner of the aircraft engine manufacturer and including a second database and a second web server configured to display a second web site populated with data from the second database, wherein the data populating the second database is different from the data populating the first database.

Rather, Hobbs describes a method for generating a single frame within a web browser, wherein the frame includes an indexed list of terms that the site operator has designated as linked terms that are used as query keys in order to return optimum results from a Data Warehouse's search engine, Dan describes a system for identifying attributes of a user-changed web page and storing the attributes of a user-changed web page in a database, wherein the system includes a web site and a clone of the web site that is stored in a remote location and not accessed during use by users, Garrow describes a method for maintaining a database of configurations of mechanical equipment, and Glass merely describes a real-time data management traffic adviser system which uses data generated at different rates, by multiple incompatible data sources. However, none of Hobbs, Dan, Garrow, and Glass, considered alone or in combination, describes or suggests sharing data between a first business entity and a second business entity, wherein the data shared by the two business entities is different.

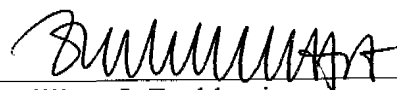
Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 13 is submitted to be patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan and Garrow, and further in view of Glass.

Claim 17 depends from independent Claim 13. When the recitations of Claim 17 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 13, Applicants submit that dependent Claim 17 likewise is patentable over Hobbs in view of Dan and Garrow, and further in view of Glass.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 11 and 17 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. Zychlewicz
Registration No. 51,366
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070